

Turkey Turquoise Coast Multisport Tour

Get ready for the travel experience of a lifetime! The Turkish people are unsurpassed in their hospitality, the food is to die for, the coastline is a dream and the country is filled with timeless villages, magnificent scenery and amazing historic sites which transport you to the glory and splendor of the ancient world.

Day 1. Arrive Istanbul, Celal Sultan Hotel or similar

(<http://www.celalsultan.com> / +90 (212)-520-9323 / private baths)

Welcome to Turkey! We are met on arrival at Istanbul's Ataturk International Airport and transferred to your hotel in Istanbul's fascinating Old City, the Sultanahmet.

Time permitting, we enjoy a taste of this imperial metropolis that was capital to the Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman empires with a visit to one of its iconic sights, the Blue Mosque (1616 A.D.) famous for its six minarets and stunning cascade of domes.

Tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner at a favorite local restaurant.

- Arrival before 12:00pm is recommended to allow time for afternoon sightseeing.
- Airport transfer 30 minutes

Day 2. Istanbul, Celal Sultan Hotel or similar

Today is devoted to exploring the Old City of Istanbul, the Sultanahmet, which dominated the Mediterranean world for over 1000 years.

We start with a visit to the Roman Hippodrome (203 A.D.) with its Egyptian Obelisk dating to 16th century B.C., Serpentine Column from 5th century B.C. and Stone Obelisk erected in 10th century A.D. Next is Hagia Sophia, one of the world's great marvels of religious architecture constructed first as a Christian church by the Byzantine Emperor Justinian in 536 A.D. The Church was converted into a mosque after the Ottoman conquest in 1453 and then into a museum after the founding of the Turkish Republic.

After lunch we visit Topkapi Palace, begun by Sultan Mehmet the Conqueror in the 15th century, it was the imperial residence of the Ottoman sultans for 400 years. Next we visit the Basilica Cistern. Built by Emperor Justinian in the 6th century, it can hold 21 million gallons of water and has 336 wonderfully carved marble columns. We end the day at Istanbul's Grand Bazaar whose 4000 shops offer everything imaginable from Turkish carpets and alabaster bookends to a astounding array of foods and spices, and clothing and jewelry of every description.

Day 3. Selcuk, Kirkinca House Hotel

(<http://www.kirkinca.com/en/> / +90-232-898-3133 / private baths)

This morning we fly to Izmir and drive to the city of Selcuk where we visit the ancient city of Ephesus, considered by many the best preserved ancient city in the world.

Ancient Ephesus was a cosmopolitan trading center of 250,000 that was made capitol of Roman Asia by the Emperor Augustus. In these streets Marc Anthony romanced Cleopatra and St. Paul preached the new religion of Christianity. The marble avenues, wonderfully preserved homes, temples, theaters, baths, markets, brothels, libraries and gymnasiums transport us back to the splendor of the ancient world.

After Ephesus, we visit the ruins of the great Temple of Artemis, the largest Greek temple ever built and one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Isa Bey Mosque and the Basilica of St. John

- Flight to Izmir 1 hour
- Drive to Selcuk 1 hour

Day 4. Ephesus, Hotel Hal-Tur or similar

(<http://www.haltur.net> / +90-258-272-2723 / private bath)

This morning we visit the House of the Virgin Mary. The present structure dates from the 6th century A.D. but was built over the foundation of an older building believed to be Mary's last home.

After our tour we drive to the site of ancient Aphrodisias. The restoration of the site is one of the most stunning in Turkey and its Stadium, Temple of Aphrodite and Tetracylon are especially remarkable.

We overnight at the Hotel Hal-Tur in Pamukkale overlooking its world famous travertine pools and the ancient Roman spa of Hierapolis, both declared World Heritage sites in 1988.

- Drive to Pamukkale 5 hours

Day 5. Dalyan Cruise, Dalyan Pension

(www.dalyanpansion.com / +90-252-284-3176 / private baths)

This morning we explore Pamukkale and Hierapolis before driving to Dalyan for a cruise on the Dalyan River. We board at Iztuzu Beach, a protected nesting area for

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endangered loggerhead turtles, then follow the river's circuitous route through the vast reed beds of the Dalyan Delta Nature Preserve. After our cruise we stop for a relaxing soak in the hot spring and mud baths at Ilica.

After Ilica, we transfer to Dalyan for a relaxing evening at our pension.

- Drive to Dalyan 3 hours

Day 6. Rafting in Dalaman River, Dalyan Pension

Get ready to get wet! Today we raft the Dalaman River, one of the most exciting one-day whitewater adventures in Turkey. Thrilling Class III to IV rapids, a spectacular limestone canyon and refreshing crystal clear water all make for an unforgettable day. We wrap up with a delicious riverside barbeque.

- Rafting Dalaman River - Class III & IV (3-4 hrs)
- Drive to river put-in 1 hour

Day 7. Kaunos & Tomb Bay Lykia Resort, (<http://www.goceklykiareort.com/> +90-252-645-2828 / private baths)

This morning a short 15-minute transfer takes us to the ruins of the ancient city of Kaunos. This is an impressive site with its well excavated Roman bath, theatre, agora and Byzantine church. It is the 4th century B.C. Lycian rock tombs carved into the cliffs which make Kaunos truly exceptional. After exploring the site we drive to the seaside town of Gocek, and board our boat for our exploration of the famed "Turquoise Coast" and its pine clad jewel the Gulf of Fethiye.

We sail six miles to the delightful Tomb Bay (Taskaya) where the ancient city of Crya's baths are still evident among the olive trees and oleander. The acropolis is a short scramble above a seaside restaurant.

Day 8. Cleopatra's Bath, Ancient Lydea, Lykia Resort

Today we sail to Cleopatra's bath where she is said to have honeymooned with Marc Antony in 32 B.C. Then we head off to take the 2 hour hike to the hill top site of rarely visited ancient Lydea with its mausolea, agora foundations, statue remnants, Corinthian column sections, and inscribed pedestals. We return to our lunch spot for a bite to eat, and then continue sailing along the coast to meet with our vehicle and return to our hotel for the night.

Day 9. Sea Kayaking, Gemiler (St Nicholas) Island, Lykia Resort

From the beach at Gemiler Bay, this morning we paddle around Gemiler Island, exploring its stunning coastline and stopping to swim and snorkel before returning to our hotel. It is believed that St. Nicholas, the traditional inspiration for Santa Claus, once lived here. Gemiler was a sanctuary for European pilgrims coming on their way to the Holy Land and is dotted with churches dating from the Middle Ages.

Day 10. End of tour

After breakfast we transfer to Dalaman Airport for our flight back to Istanbul's Ataturk International Airport and our homeward flights.

- Drive to Dalaman airport 30 minutes

Extend Your Adventure with a Trip to Magical Cappadocia

Experience the magical region of central Turkey called Cappadocia, famous for its fairytale landscape of rock hewn homes and churches, underground cities and traditional way of life. Call us for all the details at 1-800-488-8483.

Tour Details

Accommodations: Hotel (9 nights)

Length: 10 days/ 9 nights

Group Size: Minimum 4/ maximum 12

2012 Dates: May 13-22, June 3-12 Additional dates available upon request.

Price: \$3850 per person double occupancy (additional \$1,475 per person for a total group size of 3; additional \$3,300 per person for a total group size of just 2)

Single Supplement: \$525

Trip Rating: Moderately Easy

Gateway Cities: Istanbul, Turkey

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Meeting Time & Place: Day 1, Istanbul, Turkey, Ataturk International Airport. Arrival before 12:00pm is recommended to allow time for afternoon sightseeing in Istanbul.

Trip Conclusion: Day 10, Dalaman Airport, Dalaman Turkey

Trip Price Includes: Accommodations, meals (dinner Day 1 – breakfast Day 10), domestic airfare, bottled water with meals, activities as described in the itinerary, land transportation and ferry for Dalyan rafting, airport transfers for domestic flights and international flights Day 1 and Day 10 with group arrival and departure (private transfers at additional cost), VAT, entrance fees, professional English speaking guide, equipment for rafting, snorkeling, kayaking, tips for hotel staff, waiters and drivers.

Trip Price Excludes: International airfare, travel insurance, visas, personal expenses such as phone, laundry, drinks other than bottle water with meals, tips to tour leader as deemed appropriate, and optional activities.

Itinerary & Price Changes: The itinerary and prices above describe the tour's intended price, accommodations, activities and route but the actual price and itinerary may vary. Changes in the costs of lodging, transportation, taxes, etc. along with weather conditions, safety concerns, personnel changes and other considerations can all affect our itinerary and prices and we reserve the right to make changes as deemed necessary.

The Next Step...

References Don't take our word for it that The World Outdoors trips are the finest in the adventure travel industry. Ask our past guests. *Call about any of our trips and we'll be happy to refer you to someone who's been there with us.*

The Best Value in Active Travel Guarantee: *We commit to you that all of our trips are of the highest quality at the best value. If you find a trip of equal quality that matches our itinerary and inclusions at a lower fare within 30 days of booking your trip with us, we will gladly refund the difference. A simple guarantee that assures you of the best trip at the best fare!*

How do I join this trip? Call The World Outdoors at (800) 488-8483 and a Trip Consultant will reserve your space(s) or register online at www.TheWorldOutdoors.com. Your travel agent can also book your trip at no extra cost and provide other helpful assistance.

Special Requests: If you have any special dietary needs or any special request that will make your trip more enjoyable, please be sure to notify your Trip Consultant or travel agent upon booking.

Then Leave the Rest to Us... Before you go, we provide you with extensive pre-departure information, including your reservation payment receipt and confirmation, travel insurance application, suggestions for preparing for your trip, a packing list, information on pre- and post-trip arrangements, a guest questionnaire and a liability release agreement.

Travel Protection: To make your trip with The World Outdoors even more carefree, we strongly recommend the purchase of our travel insurance plan. Offering comprehensive coverage and peace of mind, our travel insurance plan is designed to protect you in case of lost or damaged luggage, a sudden illness or death in the family, emergency medical expenses and transportation costs, and flight delays. We'd be happy to arrange travel insurance coverage for you, so contact us at (800) 488-8483 with any questions.

How do I book airfare for this trip? Call our in-house travel agent, Sherry Malanify, at 800-488-8483 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time Monday through Friday or you can email her at sherrym@theworldoutdoors.com. Sherry is also available to assist you with pre- and post-lodging needs. If Sherry is unavailable and your needs are urgent, please call James TravelPoints, a local travel agency, at 800-538-7461 and ask for Georgia (ext 251) or email her at GeorgiaT@travelpoints.com. Be sure to tell her you are traveling with The World Outdoors. Alternatively, you are welcome to book your airfare online, directly with the airline or through your personal travel agent.

General Information

Payments & Cancellations: A \$500 per person deposit is required at time of reservation. Trip balance is due 90 days before tour departure. Deposits are non-refundable unless the trip is cancelled by the tour operator. Cancellations made 60 to 90 days before departure incur a cancel fee of 50% of the total trip price; cancellations made 30 to 59 days before departure, cancel fee is 75% of total trip price; cancellations made less than 30 days before departure, cancel fee is 100% of total trip price.

Local Tour Operator: The World Outdoors operates this tour through a local Turkish tour operator with years of experience and an outstanding safety record.

How difficult is this trip...really? No experience is required for any of the activities but the tour is designed for healthy adults who are comfortable with travel on small boats, moderate hikes and water activities.

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Emergency Contact Information: Our office in Boulder, Colorado is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time 1-800-488-8483. For emergencies outside of our normal business hours call Bill Marriner at 720-289-0460, Sherry Malanify at 303-915-9660, Darcie Carr at 303-595-8561 or Eric Wagner at 303-324-7795.

You can also contact our tour operator *Middle Earth Travel* at their office in Goreme-Nevsehir, Turkey. It is open Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Call them from the U.S. at 011-90-384-271-2559; from outside Turkey +90-384-271-2559; or within Turkey 0-384-271-2559. After hours call Atil Ulas Cuce, From the U.S. 011-90-530-468-0326; from outside Turkey +90-530-468-0326 or within Turkey 0-530-468-0326

The + means you need to dial the appropriate international calling code for the country you are calling from before the rest of the number. Ask local information for the correct code.

What weather can I expect? May through September along the southern Aegean coast are typically dry, sunny and warm with daytime temperatures in the 80's and 90s and nighttime lows in the 60s and 70s. In Istanbul during the summer expect humid days with highs in the 80's and lows in the 60s.

Is this trip suitable for children? The tour is suitable for children 12 and older.

Health Concerns: Visit <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/destinationTurkey.aspx> for the latest health information on travel to Turkey.

Visas and Passports: A valid passport and visas are required for most foreign visitors to Turkey. Visit <http://www.traveldocs.com/tr/er.htm> for the latest travel requirements.

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